The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accents and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and lightens other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Acceptance for mailing at special rate, of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 13, 1918. Entered as second-class matter September 25, 1912, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

WHOLE NO. 2050 — WILLIAM GREEN, *President* — WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, JULY 25, 1950 — GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer* — VOL. 40, NO. 30

Samuel Gompers said:

The problem of labor politics lies in doing the possible things that may justify free the masses from any of the burdens under which they labor and which are consequent upon the present inequities of society.

Wanted: 55,000,000 Votes in November

Washington.—Liberals want 55,000,000 votes cast for congressmen in November.

The AFL Labor's League for Political Education says the closer we come to that goal the better Congress we will get.

Every AFL member registered, all voters in his family registered by friends registered. That is the first goal.

The second goal is to get them all to vote in November.

Every local AFL union has been asked to establish a registration committee and a contribution committee to work for the election of a liberal Congress this year.

How can you be sure that the next Congress will be better than this one? You can be certain of that by voting Nov. 7. It's as simple as that.

Washington Economist Louis Bean, who predicted the outcome of the 1948 elections in the summer of that year, shows the importance of a big election day turnout in 1950 in the AFL's "fifteen factors," to be published Aug. 31.

In 1940 more than 45,000,000 votes were cast for congressmen. A pretty good Congress was elected. In 1942 less than 30,000,000 went to the polls. In 1943 you got the anti-labor Smith-Connally Act. The act called for a "cooling-off" period before strikes and barred political contributions by unions.

Again, in 1944 the vote for congressmen climbed to about 45,000,000. Then in 1946 the vote in the congressional elections dropped to 25,000,000. And in 1947 you got the Taft-Hartley Act.

Finally, in 1948 the vote for congressmen shot up past 45 million. And, of course, the 81st Congress.

Mr. Bean points out the present Congress would have been much more liberal than it now is if the vote in 1948 had been "normal." He says that votes cast in 1940 there have been about 10,000,000 "lost" voters.

By that he means that the increase in voters has not kept up with the increase in the number of persons over 21 since 1940.

HOME RECORD

Washington.—The nation's home builders between January and June 1950 scored an all-time high for any half year on record with a total of 667,000 new permanent nonfarm dwelling units started.

The January-June total for 1950 was 33 percent above the 449,000-unit total for the comparable 1949 period.

FTC Asked to Cite Racketeering Press

Newark, N. J.—The International Labor Press of America has requested the Federal Trade Commission to help eliminate "racket" newspapers.

The appeal followed recent FTC action against a paper published in Philadelphia for misrepresenting its true nature and thereby defrauding the public.

ILPA Secretary-Treasurer Lewis M. Herrman said in a letter to FTC Chairman James Mead that a number of such racket sheets operate in various parts of the country, "fleecing the public and, particularly, employers friendly to labor, of hundreds of thousands of dollars annually by posing as editorial spokesmen for organized labor."

Howard Colvin, 70, Retires August 1

Washington.— Howard T. Colvin retired, effective Aug. 1, as associate director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

He reached the U. S. Civil Service retirement age of seventy on Aug. 29 years, although he is some years junior in length of service. Colvin is the veteran Cyrus S. Ching.

HOWARD T. COLVIN

Mr. Ching, who selected Clyde M. Mills as associate director, said of Mr. Colvin:

"The history of the U. S. Conciliation Service and the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service is your history, to a remarkable extent, of the career of Howard T. Colvin—his philosophy of labor-management relations, his friendliness, his sense of equity and fair dealing, and his numerous contributions to industrial peace."

Mr. Colvin joined the conciliation service of the U. S. Labor Department in 1918 and served continuously as conciliator; assistant to John R. Steelman and Edward F. Warren under Secretaries of Labor Frances Perkins and Lewis B. Schwellenbach; acting director under both secretaries; and director of the service since the service was made independent of the Labor Department by the Taft-Hartley Law.

He was a member of the AFL Brotherhood, of Railway Clerks and of Washington Central Labor Union and the Alexandria, Virginia, Central Labor Union.

Mr. Mills, who will take over many of Mr. Colvin's duties, is a former precinct of Columbia Typographical Union, affiliated with the AFL International Typographical Union.

Here's Work Law For North Korea

Washington.—If you were a worker in communist North Korea under Cabinet Decision No. 77 promulgated by the "Democratic People's Republic" on Jan. 31, 1950, recently received in Washington by the U. S. Department of Labor, you would have to do these things:

Observe "labor discipline" and carry out "at the correct time and exactly" orders from your economic officials.

Report for duty at the specified hour and carry on your duties without interruption. "Business which does not concern" you.

"Fulfill and overfulfill" production quotas.

"Take loving care of, and conserve," raw materials, supplies, machines and tools used in production.

Observe "secrecy of establishment."

Should you violate any of these and other provisions of labor discipline, you would be subject to administrative as well as criminal reprimand and punishment; that is, sentence set by the management as well as by the court. No provisions for appeal are included in the law under which you would be working.

WIN VOTE

Washington.—A House vote on legislation to cancel a Post Office Department order curtailing postal service was assured by AFL postal workers unions which obtained the required number of signatures.

The vote on the bill will be in order on August 14.

The required number of members, 218, has been signed to a petition for the bill before the House despite failure of the House Post Office Committee to act on it. The petition was filed by Rep. Walsh, Republican, of Indiana.

The postal service curtailment order, issued April 18 by Postmaster General Donaldson as an economy move, reduced mail deliveries to one a day and reduced service in post offices.

Editors Push LLPE Fund-Vote Drives And Warn Against Silly AMA Barrage

Washington.—Editors of AFL newspapers pushed fall conventions of the grass roots drives by Labor's League for Political Education to raise funds and register voters for November's elections.

The editors conferred with Joseph Keenan, director, and other officials of Labor's League for Political Education as the final phase of the league's 2-day meeting here in July.

Editors have one of the major jobs of arousing rank and file members at the local levels to full participation in the league's campaign so that a Fair Deal Congress can be elected in November. Full local coverage will help the registration and contribution committees to be set up by each local union.

Putting across labor's political message was the topic of the labor editors.

The editors were asked to act as the pipeline between Labor's League and their local readers.

They were advised to warn their readers in advance about the multi-million dollar campaign the American Medical Association will start Oct. 1 in the fight against health insurance. It was revealed that the cry of "socialism" will be raised against free public school, the 40 hour week, and later against wage and hour laws, workmen's compensation and other social legislation.

Editors were urged to convince their readers why it is to their own interest to contribute to LLPE. The editors were asked to send LLPE information on local issues, local trends, local sentiment.

Bevin's Union Gives To Political Fund

(The British Trades Union Congress and AFL will exchange fraternal delegates at their conventions in September. Here is a brief story on the BTUC's biggest union.)

By RAY BOYFIELD
Secretary, Organization Department
British Trades Union Congress

London, England.—More than a fourth of Britain's trade unionists belong to 3 unions. The largest is the Transport and General Workers' Union.

The TGWU now has over 1,250,000 members and is a combination of what were 50 separate organizations. It was formed in 1922 by a merger of 14 unions mainly concerned with dockers, road transport workers and general laborers.

Its sponsors who included Mr. Ernest Bevin, the union's first secretary, realized that the larger amalgaments which would cover the whole country, and where they must have a large organization to be able to bargain effectively with the national combinations developing on the employers' side.

The union has some 600 full-time officials, each of whom is allowed to serve as a delegate to the conference now to have a vote on any of the committees. Vacancies for these posts may be filled only by members working within the trade concerned. Members of executive or fascist organizations are now ineligible for union office and no member may speak or vote on the various bodies to which it is affiliated.

Owing to the union's financial reserves (which are now about the equivalent of $18,250,000) and the size of its staff, it can maintain specialist service departments for research, education, law, health and industrial science. The legal staff gives assistance to officials in cases arising from accidents, alleged wrongful dismissal, offices, trade disputes and industrial law and so on; they are also responsible for watching the incidence of industrial diseases and seeking new safety measures.

Political activities are financed from a separate fund to which members' donations are voluntary. Nearly *a* million members of the union pay this political levy, which is used to assist the political party preferred by the delegate conference (in practice the Labor party) and to adopt parliamentary candidates in local and parliamentary elections. In the last general election 26 union members were elected to the House of Commons.

Education Heads 10 Of UNESCO Tasks

Florence, Italy.—The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organizations adopted a "decalogue" of 10 tasks to be undertaken by the U. S. delegation to the fifth session held here.

Richard F. Walsh, president AFL International Labor Affairs Committee and Stage Employes, was an adviser to the U. S. delegation.

Here is the list:

1. To eliminate illiteracy and encourage fundamental education.

2. To obtain for each person an education conforming to his aptitudes and to the needs of society, including technological training and higher education.

3. To advance human rights and fundamental freedoms.

4. To remove the obstacles to the free flow of persons, ideas and knowledge among the countries of the world.

5. To encourage the arts and publications of science for all mankind.

6. To remove the causes of misunderstanding that lead to wars.

7. To strengthen world cultural interdependence.

8. To advance through the press, radio and motion pictures the cause of truth, peace and freedom.

9. To bring about better understanding among the people of the world and to convince them of the necessity of cooperation with each one another in the framework of the United Nations.

10. To render clearing house and technical services to the United Nations, together with services in reconstruction and relief assistance.

HEARINGS SET

Washington.—The President's Commission on Migratory Labor, after a 2-day hearing in Washington devoted to testimony from interested labor, employer, farmer and civil rights groups, announced a schedule for its hearings around the field.

The commission will hold hearings in Brownsville, Texas, July 31 and Aug. 1; El Paso, Texas, Aug. 4 and 5; Phoenix, Ariz., Aug. 7 and 8; Los Angeles, Calif., Aug. 10, 11 and 12; and Fort Collins, Colo., Aug. 17 and 18. Additional hearings in the Midwest, on the Atlantic coast and in the South will be scheduled later.

Edwin J. Mitchell, speaking for H. L. Mitchell, president of the AFL National Farm Labor Union, pointed out that farm workers are denied the protection of federal minimum wage law, the social security law and, by most states, the workmen's compensation. He said the National Farm Labor Union has "consistently opposed the importation of foreign workers from Mexico, Jamaica, West Indies and elsewhere, since the importation of foreign workers reduces job opportunities for American citizens and prevents the rise of wages, working and living conditions" of all farm labor.

HERZOG REAPPOINTED

Washington.—President Truman nominated Chairman Paul M. Herzog for another 5-year term as head of the National Labor Relations Board. Mr. Herzog's term expires in August.

Urges Action

Washington.—AFL President William Green calls 2-day meeting of Labor's League for Political Education that tremendous amount of work in registering voters and raising funds must be done immediately to assure election of Fair Deal Congress in November. He stands in front of map of his native Ohio where he will vote for Joseph T. Ferguson to succeed Sen. Robert A. Taft.

Against Taft

Washington. — Secretary-Treasurer Phil Hannah of Ohio Federation of Labor tells how labor has united with farmers and other liberals in effort to defeat Sen. Robert A. Taft and elect Joseph T. Ferguson his successor in November.

For Dingell

Washington.—President Frank X. Martel of Wayne County Federation of Labor in Michigan reports how medical fellow workers ramaged to bed of patients against labor's friend, Rep. John D. Dingell of Detroit, House sponsor of health legislation.

Asks Local Help

Washington. — Secretary-Treasurer Edward B. Wevker of Kentucky Federation of Labor urges local unions help in the fight to elect liberal Congress.

Textile Union Signs Third Pension Pact

Atlanta, Ga.— The United States Rubber Co. and the AFL United Textile Workers have concluded a pension agreement covering the 1,500 wage earners at the Winnsboro, S. C., plant.

The first company-paid pension agreement in any South Carolina textile plant, the new pact provides for $100 a month minimum pension—including social security benefits—for employes who reach the age of 65 and have completed 15 years of service. Employes with 30 years service at the age of 65 will receive $80 a month minimum pension including social security.

A minimum disability pension of $50 a month is provided after 20 years service for those who become totally disabled.

The insurance feature provides for company-paid life insurance in the amount of $2,000 for all employes. An additional $1,000 will be purchased by the employes at their own cost. The company formerly paid for life insurance in the amount of $1,000 for men and $500 for women. The pact became effective Aug. 1.

UTWA-AFL Southern Director Joseph Jacobs stated:

"This is the first company-paid pension agreement of its kind covering textile workers negotiated by any union in the Carolinas. It is the third such agreement negotiated by our union in the country. We have established a pattern for the textile industry to follow."

Editor Says Hughes Evades on Gompers

By IRWIN E. KLASS
Editor Federation News, Chicago Typographical Union

(Following is one view of "The Secret Years" by Merlo J. Pusey, Houghton Mifflin Publishing Co., $4, which was given the Taminent, Pa., Social Action Committee award for 1950.)

Chicago.—This book is subtitled "a novel about Samuel Gompers." If "about" means that Author Pusey has Rupert Hughes has done an excellent job of evading the issues. He also forgets to the core of the founder and chief presidential of the American Federation of Labor. "At the same time, Hughes manages to inject his own bias on labor questions into the book.

A skilled portrayal of romantic adventures suitable for the pulp magazines, Hughes has neither the grasp of the labor movement nor does he probe deeply into the motives of the actor and times of Gompers to come up with a vivid picture of either.

We've no idea just how far literary license should be used to wander from a man's actual life in building his story. We doubt that Gompers would appreciate the emphasis on his romantic life or Hughes' simultaneous juggling of 4 boy-meets-girl situations to use as the foundation for a story about a man who had greater impact on American civilization by the last 100 years than anyone except Lincoln. Hughes' own writing is good—still—the author uses a heavy brush to color the story. There is no comment to suit his own convictions—presented without criticism.

In Gompers autobiography—"Seventy Years of Life and Labor"—he devotes 2 pages to his wooing and winning of 15-year-old Sophie Julian when he is 17. In "The Giant Wakes," Sophie Hall is a child bride at a page one, meets him on page 26, they have their first child on page 30 and marry on page 177.

Hughes creates an unreal image of Gompers, intimating that he was solely responsible for the creation of the labor movement. Gompers himself, in "The Passing of Plutocracy" in 1914: "The labor movement of itself not begin with my advent into it. The labor movement is as old as the human family. The labor movement is the result of the ills of human society and a conscious effort to overcome those ills. It is a demonstration of protest against every wrong which exists and which has been long endured; it is a demand for the exercise of right to which toilers are entitled and which they have not yet achieved."

Hughes manages to get his bitter pills of psychology in a sugar coated treatment of a turbulent era and one of the lively genre books of the last 100 years.

The net result is a distasteful mixture of fact and fiction, made unpalatable by the author's use of too much sweetness in the fiction and not enough light on the facts.

There's a job ahead for a competent writer who isn't interested in making a fast dollar out of the publicity given the centenary of Gompers' birth. The biography of Samuel Gompers would make a valuable addition to our library shelves.

Until that's done, we recommend Gompers' own "Seventy Years of Life and Labor" and Bernstein's "History of Labor in the United States," by John R. Commons and Associates.

And for a quick look—read "Labor's National Hero," by J. C. Rich in the May issue of The American Federationist.

Hughes' book doesn't begin to satisfy the reader looking for a novel or as biography.

The book's only identity with the real trade union movement is something that Rupert Hughes had nothing to do with: it bears the label of the Allied Printing Trades Council of Los Angeles.

KENTUCKY SCHOOL

Morehead, Ky.—Six from Germany, one from Peru and one from the Dominican Republic were among the students who attended the fifth annual session of the Kentucky Labor School.

Foods Lead Big Rise In Cost of Living

HALT CHILD LABOR

Washington.— The first injunction in New Jersey restraining a farmer from future violations of the child-labor provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act was recently handed down by Federal Judge Thomas F. Madden for the U. S. Federal Court for the District of New Jersey.

The injunction forbids the farmer from employing children under 16 during school hours.

During last year's strawberry-picking season, investigators of the U. S. Labor Department's Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions found that this farmer, a Pittsgrove truck farmer, was employing 43 children under 16 years of age during the hours they were legally required to attend school.

Wage-hour records show that most of these children were transients from Georgia and Florida and that their ages ranged from 11 to 15 years. The others were local children enrolled in the public schools.

Green Glad of Ties With Free Workers

Washington.—AFL President William Green declared that Italian labor and trades unionists that steadily "we are developing a new relationship and closer friendship among the workers of the free world."

Speaking at a luncheon sponsored by the AFL and CIO, Mr. Green said that the free workers of the world "must be closely related to deal with economic and social problems throughout the world.

"We must stand together," he said. "The world we Nazi regime made possible. But it was no worse, perhaps, than the totalitarian tyranny now trying to establish itself in far Asia and threaten to engulf our own countries.

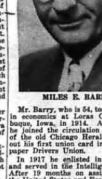
"We are glad you come from the free democratic trade unions of your countries," he told them.

The French and Italian groups were among many teams being brought here to study American trade union life by the Economic Cooperation Administration, State and Labor Departments.

Name AFL Unionist Legion Labor Head

(Special Correspondence.)

Chicago.—Miles E. Barry, a doctor of philosophy and assistant secretary of the Chicago cemetery workers union, has been appointed by the American Legion to head the national rehabilitation commission of the legion veterans' organization.



MILES E. BARRY

Mr. Barry, who is 54, took his Ph.D. degree from the University of Chicago, Iowa, in 1914. A year later he joined the editorial department of the old Chicago Herald, and took his first union job as secretary of the paper Drivers Union.

In 1917 he enrolled in the Army and served in the Intelligence Corps. After 19 months on assignments in the United States and France, he was mustered out in 1919.

In 1940 he became associated with Local 73 of the AFL Building Service Employes' International Union as a business representative and organizer. As such he did an outstanding job of organizing the workers in the Chicago retail candy industry.

Mr. Barry succeeds Lemuel L. McPeridge, international president, Mr. Barry organized the Cemetery Workers, Greens Attendants and Institutional Employes local unit back in 1942. He has been secretary-treasurer ever since.

A Legion member since 1919, he is a past commander of his local post and was chairman of the American-ism committee of the Legion's Illinois Department. In both his AFL and his Legion work he has been a crusader for many years against the dangers of communism.

A year ago, as personal representative of President McPeridge, Mr. Barry helped settle the strike of cemetery workers in New York. The strike was called by a non-AFL union which originally represented the New York workers.

Buy Independence Bonds.

Washington.—The cost of living is the highest in history.

The rise, reported for the month between May 15 and June 15 by the U. S. Department of Labor, was a big 4.9 percent.

(Editor's note: Will the business press and industry trade journals please refrain from using the word of "big" slanted reporting? In such a delicate and heavily weighted index as the government's Consumer Price Index, a jump of nine-tenths of one percent is big and any honest economist will say so.)

Chairman W. Stuart Symington of the National Security Resources Board told the Senate Banking Committee that "prices of 28 basic commodities have risen 10 percent since the invasion of South Korea."

But, he said, President Truman did not yet want price controls, rationing or manpower restrictions.

In the monthly survey conducted by the Commerce Department made war on Korea, the 4.9 percent increase:

"Led by large increases in prices of meats, fruits and vegetables, retail prices of foods and clothing brought by moderate-income families in large cities" between mid-May and mid-June to 4.9 percent.

"This was the second consecutive month in which a substantial increase in prices occurred.

"Additional advances in consumers' prices are likely to be reported in the index for July 15."

The consumer price index for June 15 was 170.2 (1935-39 = 100), the highest level reached since World War II. It was 162.2 in June 1949, but still below the peak of 174.3 by the AFL and CIO, Mr. Green said that was 0.4 percent higher than a year ago, 26 percent higher than in June 1946, and 72 percent above August 1939.

Chiefly responsible for the increase in the month was a 1.1 percent rise in food prices, reflecting greater than usual seasonal increases for meats and fresh fruits and vegetables.

Rents rose 0.3 percent and fuels 0.1 percent; miscellaneous goods and services were unchanged on the average during the month. Fractional declines of 0.1 percent were recorded for apparel and housefurnishings.

Retail food prices rose substantially for the second consecutive month, and were higher than a year ago earlier, and 41 percent above June 1946.

Between mid-May and mid-June, food prices advanced in all of the 56 cities surveyed, with increases of 1.5 percent or greater reported in Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, Cleveland, and Buffalo. The smallest increases, 0.2 percent or less, were reported in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Jackson, Miss.

Union Wins 52½c, $700 in Back Pay

Milwaukee, Wis. — Unanimous approval of a new 3-year contract, proposal at the Briggs-Stratton Corp., was given by more than 2,000 members of Local 232 of the United Automobile Workers of the AFL.

Approval of the proposal is estimated to end the biggest labor dispute in this city's history.

The settlement, which approximates a package of 52½ cents an hour, includes the following:

(1) Ten cents an hour retroactive to Feb. 1 and 5 cents an hour retroactive to May 31. This also is equivalent to 15 cents an hour for the year.

(2) A straight 10 cents an hour increase on Feb. 1, 1951.

(3) A pension plan covering the next 3 years at an hour.

(4) A 3-year accident insurance program costing the company another 2 cents an hour. This is equivalent to equal a 52½ cents an hour package.

In addition, the company will receive pay for 4 holidays lost as a result of the settlement. This will be averages about $53 for each employe, and is in addition to the amount of activity which may pay employes up to $700 in back pay. The cost to the company is estimated at approximately $1,000,000.

An all-union shop was won subject to a check-off vote which the union is confident will be held by July 20.

Other terms include an acceptable grievance procedure were met and a completely overhauling of the seniority and transfer clauses accomplished. Under this phase, any worker transferred for company convenience shall be paid the highest rate on the job from which, or to which, he is transferred, whichever is greater. The company has further agreed to make a time and work study and related matters available to the union and has specifically provided that time study results shall be subject to collective bargaining.

Among the other gains are checkoff of dues, triple time for all days worked, call-in pay, and a guarantee that 40 hours work will not be reduced. The 5-year contract will be open every year, except the third, for the current 10 cents an hour increase and the signing of a new contract.

The Briggs settlement brings to an end one of the most stubborn fights ever to be waged by a local union membership against a big corporation. Prior to a 17-month strike in the spring, the UAW-AFL sponsored shortly after the technique. However, the protracted struggle of the membership has paid off in real dividends as this proposed settlement demonstrates. Official signing of the contract is expected to take place soon after the NLRB referendum.

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accents and editorial interpretation of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
SUPPLEMENT

WILLIAM GREEN, *President* — WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, JULY 28, 1950 — GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Samuel Gompers said:

We gain by every discussion. We gain even by every hostile attack which provokes comment and gives an opportunity to show what is the truth in regard to our cause.

AFL-CIO Set Up Unity Group To Work for Complete Merger

Talk AFL-CIO Unity

Washington.—Clockwise, 1, to r., around the table the AFL-CIO Permanent Unity Committee discusses details leading to organic unity: AFL Vice President Charles J. MacGowan, President William Green, AFL Vice President Daniel J. Tobin and Dan W. Tracy; CIO Vice Presidents Allan Haywood, Walter Reuther, Allan S. Haywood, Frank Rosenblum and Joseph Curran and Secretary-Treasurer James B. Carey.

Washington.—The AFL and CIO are headed for organic unity.

Representatives designated by the AFL Executive Council and the CIO Executive Board constituted themselves at a 2-day meeting as a permanent committee to seek the ultimate goal of a single united labor movement in America.

They called for another session Aug. 4 in Chicago to consider next steps and to make the organization formal with the election of a chairman and secretary.

The committee agreed that the entire AFL and CIO will work together with the government in the Korean crisis, for national defense, in the legislative field and to elect a liberal Congress in November.

The full and complete pledge of cooperation in all fields inspired rank and file union members throughout the country and is expected to mark the beginning of a new era of greater achievement for organized labor and all the people.

The agenda for the Aug. 4 meeting was being prepared by AFL Vice President Charles J. MacGowan, president International Brotherhood of Boiler Makers, and CIO Vice President Allan S. Haywood.

In a joint press conference, they told reporters that the committee had but one task—to form one labor movement.

"With the disturbed world conditions and the march of communism," Mr. MacGowan said, "we feel that to preserve our American institutions and to protect the working people of this country and other countries, the necessity for organic unity is a virtual must.

"Our conversations and relations have been conducted in an atmosphere of hearty cordiality and every member of this committee is determined to achieve our ultimate goal."

The full 10-man committee earlier issued a joint statement pledging full united labor support to efforts to end war in Korea, continued cooperation in international relations through the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, and continued cooperation in the fields of legislation and political action.

The committee said that at future meetings it will give consideration to:

1. Establishing practical machinery to handle problems of jurisdictional disputes and raiding affecting unions of the two organizations.

2. Specific proposals for organic unity.

AFL officials regarded the decisions as the most important ever taken to unify the 16,000,000 members of American labor under one banner.

Committee members were known that wherever AFL and the CIO had cleared away major obstacles to their merger, other labor groups such as the United Mine Workers and railroad brotherhoods would be contacted.

The International Association of Machinists is conducting independent negotiations for affiliation with the AFL.

AFL members of the unity committee are Mr. MacGowan, AFL Vice President Dan W. Tracy, president Electrical Workers, and Daniel J. Tobin, president Teamsters, and AFL President William Green.

CIO members are CIO Vice Presidents Haywood, Walter Reuther, Emil Rieve, Frank Rosenblum, Joseph Curran, and Secretary-Treasurer James B. Carey.

PLEDGES AID

Newark, N. J.—Louis F. Marciante, president New Jersey State Federation of Labor, sent the following message to President Truman:

"On behalf of the AFL workers of our state, I pledge you unqualified support in your request for greater productivity for defense purposes.

"As AFL President William Green has already pointed out, we must mobilize our full resources to keep the Red menace from our shores. In the New Jersey AFL, like the AFL nationally, being fully alert and ready, willing and able among the first to back the fight against aggression with manpower productivity as well as patriotic zeal."

Program Outlined For Labor Unity

Washington.—Following is the text of a statement issued July 25 by representatives of the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations on labor unity:

We conducted a very friendly, cooperative and encouraging constructive conversation of an exploratory nature. We discussed many phases of the whole problem of the achievement of labor unity.

We recognized the serious threat to world peace and to our country as a result of aggression in Korea. We viewed our complete determination to give full and united support to our government in this time of crisis. Labor in America is completely united against communist aggression and infiltration.

The AFL-CIO unity committee, after examining our mutual problems, determined that:

1. We will continue to work together in the field of international relations, through the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, as a means of strengthening democracy throughout the world.

2. We will work together in the fields of legislation and political action, to insure the continued strengthening of our American democratic institutions.

The AFL-CIO unity committee will meet again at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, July 26, at the Hotel Statler in Washington.

Following this meeting another meeting will be held at which time we will elect a chairman and secretary of this AFL-CIO unity committee, and give consideration to (1) establishing practical machinery to handle problems of jurisdictional disputes and raiding affecting unions of our two organizations, and (2) considering specific proposals for organic unity in the American labor movement.

U. S. to Study Work Future of the Aging

Washington.—Fourteen prominent experts on various problems of old age have been selected to serve on a section chairmen of the forthcoming National Conference on Aging.

The conference, called in response to President Truman's request to explore the implications of the steady increase in the percentage of our population, will be held Aug. 13, 14, and 15.

This will be the first time that all the questions raised by the tremendous social change in the country's population pattern will be considered on an integrated basis.

The general objectives of the conference are:

1. To evaluate the potentialities of older people toward ensuring their full participation and satisfying role in the life of the community;

2. To stimulate the exchange of ideas among persons of varied experience with a view to solving the problems of the aging through voluntary and public organizations in each state, city, and community;

3. To transmit the findings of the conference to interested groups, including the federal government, as a guide for developing policies with regard to our older people.

In addition, the reports to be presented by the delegates in their specialized fields of endeavor, the conference will hear from national experts who have reached the age of accepted retirement age but whose continued participation in the work of productive wealth of the nation serve as a symbol and an inspiration to all our people.

Musicians' Concerts Bring Cheer to Aged

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
AFL Staff Correspondent

New York.—Local 802 musicians whose parent union, the American Federation of Musicians, sponsors concerts in hospitals and homes for the aged, served as a union labor factory for Federal Security Administrator Oscar Ewing.

The U. S. official, whose department is sponsoring a conference of 800 experts to discuss problems of the aged in Washington Aug. 13, 14 and 15 had heard about Local 802's program of free music for old folks in the city's institutions.

Invited to attend a concert by Richard McCann, Local 802 president, Ewing visited Welfare Island where musicians are giving 75 free concerts for old people.

Later, Mr. Ewing told officials of Local 802 how impressed he was with the free music program for these old folks.

"It's wonderful, just wonderful," he murmured again and again as he watched the gentle faces of the aged audience listening to a program of Gilbert and Sullivan operetta airs.

"It's wonderful that the musicians' union is doing for these people. I think the members of the band and Local 802 are to be congratulated on the magnificent service they are performing."

These concerts are part of several thousand free musical performances which Local 802 has been donating since 1947 to city and private institutions which help the needy.

Discuss Aging Problems

New York.—Federal Security Administrator Oscar Ewing (right), visiting New York's home for indigent aged persons as the guest of Local 802 of the AFL American Federation of Musicians, tells Mrs. Estesl Freet (left) and James Shaw about National Conference on Aging to be held in Washington Aug. 13-15.

AFL Heads Take Up War Problems

Chicago.—The AFL Executive Council will give priority to war and defense problems at its mid-summer meeting.

The council was due to receive a complete briefing at meetings between AFL officials and Chairman Stuart M. Symington of the National Security Resources Board on mobilization to a year-war footing to meet the Korean crisis and defense needs.

AFL President William Green will report on the unity talks with the CIO and re-affiliation of the International Association of Machinists.

After drafting policies on production, manpower, prices and other related problems, the council will prepare its annual report for the AFL convention opening at Houston on Sept. 18.

U. S.-Latin Workers Back UN in Korea

Havana, Cuba.—The Inter-American Confederation of Labor (CIT) unanimously voted "complete solidarity with the United Nations in their endeavor to defend the peace and integrity and sovereignty of South Korea, victim of communist aggression and invasion."

The meeting of the leadership of the Inter-American Confederation of Workers (CIT) took place July 8-10 with Francisco Aguirre, secretary general; Bernardo Ibanez, president; Eusebio Mujal and Hipolito Marcano, vice presidents; Ernesto Romualdi, Augusto Malave Villalba, and Arturo Jauregui, secretaries, present.

Their resolution denounced "this latest communist aggression against world peace," reiterated the CIT opposition to every form of totalitarian aggression and wished the world to know that "the democratic workers of the Western Hemisphere, while engaged in a bitter struggle against pro-fascist military dictatorships in their own midst, fully realize that unless totalitarianism is defeated everywhere, peace will never be secured in the world."

The meeting took concrete steps to cooperate with the secretary general of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions in the preparation of the regional conference of that organization, scheduled to be held in Mexico City during the first week in October.

Labor Accorded Equal Status In Top U.S. Defense Planning

Mobilization Conferees

Washington.—AFL Vice President George M. Harrison (left) and AFL President William Green (right), who with AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany meet regularly with Chairman Stuart M. Symington of the National Security Resources Board, AFL Vice President Daniel J. Tobin about progress for industrial mobilization for the Korean war. They are pictured at luncheon for French and Italian labor leaders.

Washington.—Organized labor has accorded equal status with other groups on the top planning committee of the National Security Resources Board to push U. S. plans for victory in the Korean war and defense against Communist aggression anywhere in the world.

NSRB Chairman Stuart M. Symington announced that he will organize a national policy committee consisting of three representatives each from labor, industry, agriculture and the public "to consult with the board on major policy questions."

AFL President William Green announced that labor members will consist of himself, CIO President Philip Murray and President A. J. Hayes of the International Association of Machinists. They were selected by a temporary 9-man committee representing all segments of labor.

Mr. Symington's board is expected to follow decisions of this top policy committee closely.

Chairman Symington and representatives of organized labor discussed methods by which labor could make its fullest contribution to the mobilizing of the board. This meeting was one of a series held regularly by the Resources Board with representative groups in the several fields from which the policy committee will be drawn.

Mr. Symington announced the appointment by the board of Nathan Kazalow as assistants to the chairman of the board. He will recommend additional personnel from the field of labor for the top executive divisions of the board. Mr. Oliver Quayle represents the AFL at Kazalow's side.

In addition to the national policy committee, the representatives of labor and industry attending Symington's meeting accepted that all industry committees which will be set up to coordinate our resources include labor personnel experienced in that particular industry.

Mr. Symington expressed his appreciation to the members of the ad hoc committee, headed by Mr. Green, for their cooperation and advice in the series of meetings held in recent weeks.

In addition to Mr. Green, Mr. Harrison and Mr. Meany, members of the committee were: Walter Reuther, Emil Rieve and Jacob Potofsky; Harry Bridges, John L. Lewis; International Association of Machinists, Al Hayes; Harvey Brotherhoods, George E. Leighty.

Ask Profits Tax To End Gouging

Washington.—Organized labor demanded that Congress enact an excess profits tax to end price gouging of consumers.

Following a meeting with Chairman Stuart M. Symington of the National Security Resources Board, AFL President William Green issued a statement on behalf of all American labor calling for enactment of an excess profits tax to end speculative price increases resulting from the Korean war.

"We believe," Mr. Green said, "that excess profits taxation should be quickly adopted to take the profiteering out of speculative price increases and to return to the government the profits extorted from the public in these critical days through wholly unjustified rises in the price of necessities.

AFL Vice President George M. Harrison, who with Mr. Green and AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany represented the AFL conferees with NSRB Chairman Stuart M. Symington, said that business and industry are "gouging the public and there is no excuse for it."

Following is the statement on prices issued by the labor group which has been meeting regularly with Mr. Symington since the outbreak of the Korean war:

"In the course of our discussion with the National Security Resources Board, the labor representatives of organized labor in America, were unified to express their deep concern at the sweeping increase in the cost of living and the prices resulting from the Korean war.

"We believe," Mr. Green said, "that excess profits taxation should be quickly adopted to take the profiteering out of speculative price increases and to return to the government the profits extorted from the public in these critical days through wholly unjustified rises in the price of necessities.

"Such legislation will prove to the people of America and to our boys in uniform that we are determined that no person, no group, no corporation shall profit out of the crisis in which the United States finds itself today.

"This is a time for equality of sacrifice by the people of America.

"We are confronted by profiteering, by price gouging and by a spirit of hatred, by a growing inadequacy in the buying power of millions of American wage earners. The general level of food prices has risen 9 percent since June 25 and 15 percent since January 1. This increase, produced by speculative buying and hoarding are threatening to upset the living standards of the nation's working population.

"We call upon the Congress to act speedily and decisively to remedy this deteriorating situation on the American home front."

Welcomes French

Washington.—AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany chats with Lucien Paye, Inter-Governmental Force Overview and official of the Ministry of Economic Affairs during luncheon given by AFL and CIO for visiting French and Italian labor officials.

GAIN RECOGNITION

Providence, R. I.—One of the longest industrial disputes in National Labor Relations Board history ended with Brown & Sharpe Manufacturing Co., of this city, agreeing to recognize the AFL International Federation of Technical Engineers, Architects and Draftsmen's Unions as collective bargaining representatives of its time-study engineers.

The 3-year contract negotiated by the union was filed in November 1945 and has been upheld by the U. S. First Circuit Court of Appeals.

ANDY DUNN DIES

Washington.—The U. S. Treasury Department announced the death on June 30 of Andrew J. Dunn, director of labor relations of the Savings Bonds Division, a member of the AFL Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, who served 3 years in the Savings Bonds Division of the Treasury.

'We'll Keep the Vessels Sailing,' No Reds Aboard, Unions Tell U. S.

Washington.— AFL unions joined with other maritime unions and labor organizations in assuring the government that they would help keep communists and their sympathizers off American vessels.

Employers and U. S. officials joined the unions in a pact due to be in effect by Aug. 1.

Pledging we'll "keep the vessels sailing," without Reds aboard, unions and employers initialed the following agreement:

"We, the representatives of maritime labor, and employer organizations in the maritime industry, in the interest of national defense and the successful invasion of Southern Korea, hereby declare ourselves bound by the following policy:

"1. We pledge full cooperation to the United States government in the entire present emergency.

"2. We recognize that certain men, because of having been known as communist party card carriers, subversives, or who are associated with organizations carrying out policies of the communist party, will be classified as bad security risks by the military or proper government authorities.

"3. No ship will be delayed because any such men are rejected by the United States military or proper government authorities as a bad security risk.

"4. If such a man is thus rejected, the union involved immediately will furnish a replacement. However, the union or the employ involved shall have the right to appeal the case before a proper review board, if it feels the classification of any individual is improper or incorrect.

"5. No man shall be classified as a bad security risk as a result of discrimination because of union activities.

"6. In any review board set up to review such appeals, organized labor and management shall have proper representation as follows: In each principal port one man shall represent the employers, one man shall represent the union and one man from the Coast Guard. A national appeals board shall be set up in Washington, D. C., composed of three members from each group in a similar representation.

"7. Should any union or organization seek to gain signatory by phony demonstrations, bogus picket lines, etc., endeavor to delay or obstruct vessel movements, all unions signatory shall not assist, condone, or engage in such movements but shall keep the vessels sailing."

NEW PAPER APPEARS

Harlingen, Tex.—First issues of the "Valley Labor News" edited by craftsmen of the Lower Rio Grande Valley and sponsored by AFL unions have been published. The editor is Charles E. Formann, jr.

PLAN COMPERS MEMORIAL

Oswego, N. Y.—The Oswego Federation of Labor will hold a series of special events on Labor Day, Sept. 4, in commemoration of the Samuel Gompers Centennial Year. Committee Chairman John R. Barry announced.

Federal Board Says Prices Near Record

Washington.—The Federal Reserve Board told Congress prices are higher than they were in the history except for the all-time peak reached in August and September 1948.

The board feared "serious problems of price gouging and spiraling prices."

"Even before the attack by the Communist North Koreans on June 25," the board noted, "prices were rising and we were a potentially inflationary situation. Because of developments in the past few days, it is imperative that steps be taken to reduce or defer civilian demands and to lessen inflationary pressures."

The members of the board's staff board cited record sales of automobiles, refrigerators and other appliances that started in March and accelerated after the Korean outbreak.

Prices of 28 basic commodities advanced 9.4 percent in the month after the fighting began, while the all-commodity index rose 4.5 percent, or about a third as much, it reported.

"Consumer prices are now higher than ever before and may exceed for a short period in the latter part of the year the peak of 1948."

The expansion of mortgage and consumer credit was unprecedented in the major inflationary factors, with mortgage credit alone increasing about $3,000,000,000 annually in the last 4 years, more than the entire debt existed more than doubling since the end of World War II.

ICFTU Tells Asia Reds Started War

Dacca, East Pakistan.—The Asian Mission of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions charged that the Soviet Union is the "most blatant attempt to extend the communist system of influence by force of arms."

The charge was made by Roger Dekeyser of the Belgian Transport Workers at a press conference, as reported to AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany by Harold J. Dorsell, AFL representative in Asia.

Mr. Dekeyser said that the Asian people of Europe considered North Korea to be the aggressor country and pledged themselves to support the war against the Reds.

Accompanying Mr. Dekeyser were Gordon W. Chapman, secretary-treasurer AFL State, County and Municipal Workers and AFL representative on the ICFTU mission, and Deven Sen, Indian National Trade Congress.

Other members of the mission were in Tokyo. The two groups were scheduled to reunite to complete their 2-months' survey tour of Asian countries as to the present position of trade unionism and economic conditions there.

Meat Cutters Urge Imprisonment Of Profiteers and Black Marketers

By DAN SMYTH
Chicago Correspondent of AFL News Service

Chicago.—Imprisonment for profiteers in the Korean war crisis was demanded by the AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen in telegrams sent to President Truman and Attorney General J. Howard McGrath.

Earl W. Jimerson, president, and Patrick E. Gorman, secretary-treasurer, signed the wires on behalf of the union's 230,000 members in the meat industry. They said:

"While American boys are dying in Korea, it is revolting to hear many gloat over prospects that the war will bring a boom to industry.

". . . should any person or corporation engage in profiteering or black marketing, the severest possible punishment (short of death) upon conviction should be the penalty imposed for such profits earned from the blood of our young heroes."

Mr. Gorman told the AFL News Service that meat prices have gone up 10 to 15 percent in stores buying since the North Koreans crossed the 38th parallel.

"There is no necessity for hoarding meat," he said, "but there is a lot of disgrace. A friend of mine who has been shopping around reports the cost of sugar in 3 days, just over the week-end, has increased. He recently bought 5 pounds came in for 100 pounds."

While the meat cutters are opposed to profiteering of any kind in peacetime, they favor rigid government price control during war, Mr. Gorman added. He said the fighting in Korea should be treated as a war.

"If price control is enforced, organized labor will be ready to accept wage control," said Mr. Gorman, "and should agree not to ask increases in wages as long as prices remained fixed.

"All hoarders should be penalized, he said, even housewives.